

Native American Experience in Children's Literature

FICTION

ALDER, Elizabeth. CROSSING THE PANTHER'S PATH. c02.

Sixteen-year-old Billy Caldwell, son of a British soldier and a Mohawk woman, leaves school to join Tecumseh in his efforts to prevent the Americans from taking any more land from the Indians in the Northwest Territory. (YA)

BOYDEN, Linda. THE BLUE ROSES. c02.

A Native American girl gardens with her grandfather, who helps to raise her, and learns about life and loss when he dies, and then speaks to her from a dream where he is surrounded by blue roses. (E)

BRUCHAC, Joseph. SKELETON MAN. c01.

After her parents disappear, Molly lives with a "great-uncle" whose menacing behavior suggests the Skeleton Man in a traditional Mohawk story. Bruchac's scary contemporary novel respectfully incorporates traditional Mohawk lore.

[A 2002 ALA Notable Children's Book] (J)

CARVELL, Marlene. WHO WILL TELL MY BROTHER? c02.

This striking, deceptively quiet novel chronicles Evan's senior year attempts to sway officials into removing demeaning American Indian mascots. The struggle exposes him to taunts and violence, as well as to his own heritage. (YA)

ERDRICH, Lise. BEARS MAKE ROCK SOUP. c02.

A collection of stories inspired by paintings that depict the special relationships between the Plains Indians and such animals as bear, deer, moose, crows, and loons. (E)

GARVIE, Maureen. GEORGE JOHNSON'S WAR. c02

Young George Johnson lives an extraordinary life as the son of Sir William Johnson, one of the most powerful men in the Mohawk Valley of colonial New York, and Molly Brant, sister of Iroquois leader Joseph Brant. (YA)

HARJO, Joy. GOOD LUCK CAT. c00.

Because her good luck cat Woogie has already used up eight of his nine lives in narrow escapes from disaster, a Native American girl worries when he disappears. (E)

LITTLE, Kimberley Griffiths. THE LAST SNAKE RUNNER. c02.

Fourteen-year-old Kendall, half Anglo and half Acoma Indian, travels through time to sixteenth-century Acoma, New Mexico, where, in the midst of the invasion of Spanish conquistadors, he joins his Acoma ancestors to play his destined role as the last member of the Snake Clan. (YA)

MCLEOD, Elaine. LESSONS FROM MOTHER EARTH. c02.

Tess has visited her grandmother many times without really noticing her garden, but during this visit, Grandma teaches her how everything in nature can be a garden. (E)

MIKAELSEN, Ben. TOUCHING SPIRIT BEAR. c01.

After his anger erupts into violence, fifteen year-old Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the native American Circle Justice, and he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life.

[A 2002 ALA Best Book for Young Adults] (YA)

SMITH, Cynthia Leitch. **INDIAN SHOES.** c02

Together with Grampa, Ray Halfmoon, a Seminole-Cherokee boy, finds creative and amusing solutions to life's challenges. (J)

STAFFORD, Liliana. **THE SNOW BEAR.** c00.

A lifelong friendship develops between a polar bear and Bruun, an Inuit boy. After Bruun saves her from starvation and she, in turn, saves him from a blizzard, eventually they are separated and don't meet again until Bruun is a man. (E)

NON-FICTION

BIERHORST, John. **IS MY FRIEND AT HOME? PUEBLO FIRESIDE TALES.** c01.

A collection of traditional tales originally told in the Hopi pueblos of Arizona, featuring animal characters. (J398)

BRUCHAC, Joseph. **NAVAJO LONG WALK: THE TRAGIC STORY OF A PROUD PEOPLE'S FORCED MARCH FROM THEIR HOMELAND.** c02.

A Native American author and illustrator combine their talents to tell the tragic story of how, in the 1860s, thousands of Navajos were marched to a desolate reservation 400 miles from their homeland in an effort to "civilize" them. (J979.1004)

DALAL, Anita. **MYTHS OF THE NATIVE AMERICANS.** c01.

Before the arrival of Europeans in North America, native peoples lived in harmony. (J398)

ENCH, Rick. **NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN MUSIC.** c02.

Explores the music of various American Indian cultures, discussing the traditional instruments and the history and meaning of some of their songs. (J781.62)

GOBLE, Paul. **STORM MAKER'S TIPI.** c01.

With some of his most dramatic paintings, Goble brings to life a Blackfoot legend about the origin of the tipi and a time when Storm Maker was considerate enough to show the people a way to stay safe during bad weather. (J398)

LASSIEUR, Allison. **THE CREEK NATION.** c02.

This title provides an overview of the Creek Nation, including a description of their homes, food, clothing, history, religion, government, towns, and the Creek Confederacy. (J975.004)

MORRIS, Ann. **GRANDMA MAXINE REMEMBERS: A NATIVE AMERICAN FAMILY STORY.** c02.

A Shoshone grandmother relates family and cultural history to her granddaughter as they share their daily tasks on the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming. Includes a recipe, craft, and activities. (J978.004)

PHILIP, Neil. **THE GREAT MYSTERY: MYTHS OF NATIVE AMERICA.** c01.

This authoritative guide to Native American myths and legends explores the powerful themes and dramatic stories that explain some Native American beliefs about the great mysteries of life, death, how the world was created, and how it will end. (YA398.2)

RAPPAPORT, Doreen. **WE ARE THE MANY: A PICTURE BOOK OF AMERICAN INDIANS.** c02.

From the doctor who rode her horse through a snowstorm to tend a sick child, to the American marine who baffled Japanese codebreakers during WWII, here is a collection of biographies about sixteen distinguished Native Americans. (J970.4)

WEBSTER, M.L. **ON THE TRAIL MADE OF DAWN: NATIVE AMERICAN CREATION STORIES.** c01.

Presents thirteen creation stories from Native American tribes, putting them in the context of the culture and beliefs of the tribes. (J398)

WHEN THE RAIN SINGS: POEMS BY YOUNG NATIVE AMERICANS. c99.

This is a collection of poems written by young Native Americans, inspired by or matched with photographs of artifacts and people from the National Museum of the American Indian. (J811)